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Docket No. 206,871

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Puricelli & Ponte EXAMINER N/A

SERIAL NO.: GROUP: N/A

FILED: February 09, 2005

FOR: Staple for the Suture of the Sternum

February 9, 2005

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Please amend the application filed on even date herewith prior to proceeding with its examination.

**STATEMENT OF FILINGS BY EXPRESS MAIL 37 C.F.R. § 1.10**

This correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on February 9, 2005 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number ER 842 051 212 US addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450